

Message Text

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67

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-20 PC-04 DRC-01 /120 W

----- 017888

R 091721Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6773

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

USCINCSO

UNCLAS TEGUCIGALPA 1506

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDEV, PINT, HO, EGEN, EAGR

SUBJECT: GENERAL LOPEZ DISCUSSES DOMESTIC SITUATION

1. FOR THE FIRST TIME IN SEVERAL WEEKS GENERAL LOPEZ HAS COMMENTED TO THE PRESS CONCERNING CURRENT LOCAL PROBLEMS. FOLLOWING IS FROM LA PRENSA OF APRIL 6.

2. DECLARING THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WAS "DEMOCRATIC", AND NOT "LEFTIST", THE GENERAL SAID THAT THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN WAS NOW FINISHED, AND WOULD BE ANALYZED THE "FOLLOWING WEEK" IN THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS.

3. HE SAID THE "LACK OF TRANQUILITY" IN THE COUNTRYSIDE HAD ARISEN BECAUSE OF PUBLICATION OF A WORKING DRAFT ON AGRARIAN REFORM WHICH INA HAD PRESENTED TO THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS FOR ITS APPROVAL. "THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN DISCARDED, AND A NEW PLAN WORKED OUT MORE ADJUSTED TO NATIONAL REALITY."

4. LOPEZ AFFIRMED THAT HE HAD "NO KNOWLEDGE THAT THE

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REFORMS WE ARE CARRYING THROUGH HAVE PRODUCED ANY

DISCONTENT IN THE ARMED FORCES OF HONDURAS."

5. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, INCLUDING
LOPEZ, HAVE PRIVATELY SAID SO BEFORE, THIS IS LOPEZ'
FIRST PUBLIC STATEMENT THAT MUCH CRITICIZED IN A
DRAFT HAS BEEN DISCARDED AS BASIS FOR AGRARIAN REFORM.
SANCHEZ

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To: STATE
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